There is, furthermore, a distinct tendency towards a disappearance of functional milk teeth, which is best seen in *Sorex,* where there are only seven milk teeth, none of which ever cut the gum. This suppression of the milk dentition is like that of the Marsupials, Edentates, and Whales, all of which appear to be—the first certainly are—ancient forms of mammalian life.

There is also a fairly well-defined, though shallow, cloaca in many genera. Finally, the testes are purely abdominal in some, and in none is there a full descent into a scrotum, as in the more highly-developed Eutheria.

SUB-ORDER 1. INSECTIVORA VEBA.

Fam. 1. Erinaceidae.—This family contains the genera *jErinaceus, JEfylQinys,* and *Gfj/7nnura.*

Sylomys, considered by Dobson to fall within *Gymnura,* is kept separate by Leche.[1] *H, suillus* is a Malayan animal, small in size, about 5 inches long, with a short tail. Like *Gynmura,* it is spineless. The ears are decidedly large and nude. There is one pair of inguinal and one pair of thoracic teats. The colour above is a rusty brown with yellowish-white under parts. The palms and soles are quite naked. In its general form it recalls *Tupaia,* very much more than its own immediate relatives.

There is no doubt, however, of its systematic position when the skeleton and teeth are examined. A variety has been described from altitudes of 3000 to 8000 feet on Mount Kin a Balu in Borneo. It has the complete dentition of forty-four teeth. There are fourteen pairs of ribs. As in *Gymnura,* the tibia and fibula are united below. The genus is considered by Leche to be the oldest existing type of Erinaceidae.

***Gymnura*[2] is also a Malayan form with the complete dentition of the last, but with fifteen pairs of ribs and a longer tail, consisting of twenty-three vertebrae as against fourteen. There is, as with *Hylomys,* but one species, *Gr~ rafflesii.* This animal has a peculiar odour, resembling decomposed cooked vegetables.**

[1] " Bemerlcungen iiber die Genealogie der Erinaceen." In *Festschrift f.*

Liljeborg, **1896. See also Anderson, *Trans. Zool. Soc.* vili. 1874, p. 453.**

[2] **Dobson, "Notes on the Anatomy of the Erinaceidae," JProc. *Zool. Soc,* 1881, p. 389.**